SENATE BILL 2098 By Rochelle

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, relative to authorizing the issuance of special plates for the enhancement of passenger rail service.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(3), is amended by adding a new subdivision thereto, as follows:

() Passenger rail service;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-203, is amended by adding a new item thereto, as follows:

Passenger rail service - twenty-five dollars (\$25.00).

- SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:
 - (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the state of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a passenger rail service special license plate, for an automobile, recreational vehicle, or a truck of one-half (1/2) or three-quarter (3/4) ton rating.
 - (b) The funds derived from the sale of such passenger rail service special license plates, less the expense the state has incurred in designing and manufacturing such plates, shall be deposited in a special reserve account in the general fund earmarked for the use of the Tennessee passenger railroad commission, created by

Section 4-47-101, to be used exclusively for the encouragement of availability and use of passenger rail service in Tennessee.

(c) The special plates provided for in this section shall be issued in conformity with the provisions of §55-4-201 and § 55-4-202, and shall be designed in consultation with members of the Tennessee passenger railroad commission and the commissioner of safety. The special plates shall include a unique identifying number, whereby the total characters do not exceed the sum of seven (7); provided, that no two (2) recipients shall receive identical plates.

(d)

- (1) The provisions of this section shall not be construed to mean that any eligible person shall be prevented from exchanging a regular type plate for one(1) of special design; provided, that the fees prescribed under § 55-4-203 are paid.
- (2) The whole or parts of the fee for a special registration plate shall not be refunded for the exchange of a regular plate.
- (e) Additional special license plates may be obtained by any eligible person upon payment of the regular license fee for plates, as prescribed under § 55-4-203.

(f)

- (1) Special plates issued pursuant to this section may be transferred to another vehicle of the same weight class owned or leased by the same person upon proper application being made therefore and approved by the department of safety.
- (2) It is unlawful for any person to whom such plates have been issued to knowingly permit them to be displayed on any vehicle, except such as authorized by the department.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring

it.

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